Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 OMB-01 HA-05 MCE-00 IO-13
/112 W
----------117986 230223Z /70
R 221659Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6987
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 06019

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: FR, SA, SO, MASS
SUBJ: FRENCH SENSITIVITY TO REPORTS OF FRENCH ARMS IN SOMALIA

1. THE GOF IS SHOWING CONSIDERABLE SENSITIVITY TO REPORTS THAT FRENCH ARMS HAVE APPEARED IN SOMALIA. ON FEBRUARY 21 THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED A STATEMENT DENYING THAT FRANCE HAD MADE ANY DELIVERIES OF ARMS TO SOMALIA. THE STATEMENT FOLLOWED AN AFP REPORT FROM MOGADISCIO TO THE EFFECT THAT SOMALIA HAD RECEIVED A QUANTITY OF WESTERN-ORIGIN ARMS INCLUDING FRENCH-MADE SURFACE-TO-SURFACE AND SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES.

2. PREVIOUSLY QUAI OFFICIALS AT FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL HAD PRIVATELY SHOWN SURPRISE AND ANNOYANCE AT THE FEBRUARY 8 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ALLEGING THAT SOME
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SIXTY FRENCH-BUILT AMX TANKS HAD BEEN SHIPPED TO SOMALIA, PRESUMABLY BY SAUDI ARABIA. THE QUAI OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE FOR ARABIAN PENINSULA AFFAIRS TELLS US THAT THE GOF EXPECTS SAUDI ARABIA SHORTLY TO DENY OFFICIALLY THAT IT HAS SHIPPED FRENCH TANKS TO SOMALIA.

3. SOME OF THE FRENCH ANNOYANCE HAS BEEN DIRECTED

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AT THE USG: THE SAME QUAI OFFICIAL SAYS THAT THE GOF HAS TRACED THE SOURCE OF THE STORY TO THE US DELEGATION TO THE MALTA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, ARMS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS06019
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780083-0199
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780228/aaaaaxja.tel
Line Count: 66
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3521563
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: FRENCH SENSITIVITY TO REPORTS OF FRENCH ARMS IN SOMALIA
TAGS: MASS, FR, SA, SO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/721b2bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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